



## Meeting Minutes City Commission

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Monday, March 9, 2015

7:00 PM

Commission Chambers

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### Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance & Roll Call

**Present:** 7 - Mayor Mike Coyne, Commissioner Sara Cambensy, Mayor Pro Tem Dave Campana, Commissioner Sarah Reynolds, Commissioner Mike Conley, Commissioner Thomas Baldini and Commissioner Peter Frazier

### Note of Agenda Changes

*None.*

### Approval of the Agenda

*It was moved by Commissioner Conley, seconded by Commissioner Campana and carried unanimously to approve the agenda as submitted.*

### Announcements

*Mayor Coyne encouraged members of the community to go online and vote for Lakeview Arena in the Kraft Hockeyville USA contest and anyone can cast a vote in support of this effort. He said the winner will receive a grant of up to \$150,000 and we appreciate all the help we can get in this effort. He said that there are still several Board/Committees that have openings and anyone interested in serving can apply through the City Manager's Office or they can apply online on the City's website. He said we continue to make progress in filling vacancies on our Boards and Committees; however, there is more work to be done.*

### Presentation(s)

#### 1. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, by Chair Lynn Laakso

*Lynn Laakso-Chair Person of the PRAB provided a presentation to the Commission on the activities of the Board for 2014. She said the Board was established by the City Commission on February 11, 2002 with informal powers, duties and procedures. She said the Board advises the City Commission on the operation of the parks system, Lakeview Arena, and City recreation programs. She said the Board's meetings are held on the third Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m., and there are normally twelve meetings scheduled annually. She said the Board currently has two vacancies. Ms. Laakso said the City Park System consists of seven facilities, 20 parks (approximately 2,800 acres) consisting of nine ballfields, 3 soccer fields and 23 miles of trails. She reviewed a variety of projects the Board is working on and listed them in priority order. She said the Board had the following accomplishments for the year: Amended the 5 Year Recreation Master Plan into 2018 with inclusion of Tourist Park Land Use Plan; gave final recommendations for Park Land Use Policy*

*Continue to develop requirements for and discussion of a City year-round dog park; supported process leading to MDNR Passport application for Family Pods among the Tourist Park Campground recreation capital improvement projects; and supported initiatives and proposals for Trail Town designation, Clark's Park, and NTN. She also listed the following as challenges for the future: Funding, as grant applications became conservative due to limited means for fiscal match; Tourist Park Land Use Plan; potential loss of WE Energies revenue; Capital Improvements; five-year Recreation Master Plan; Presque Isle Inclusive Playground; participation; and loss of soccer representation on the Board. Ms. Laakso listed goals as follows: Continue work to refine priorities for Master Plan actions; Support development of identified policies; Capital Improvements and action plan; evaluate and endorse ideas most important to residents; work with the City to develop relocation of Bike Path on Lakeshore Boulevard; Work in conjunction with Sustainable Community ad-hoc Committee; support integration of Clark's Park into the Parks and Recreation Master Plan inventory; and support Grant initiatives as they become available. Following her presentation Mayor Coyne thanked Ms. Laakso for an excellent presentation.*

*By action of the City Commission the following comments from Commissioner Cambensy were added to the minutes:*

*She said another Committee brought up a smoking ban at Presque Isle Park and she asked Ms. Laakso if this has come up in discussion of the PRAB and what parks may have been considered. Ms. Laakso said this discussion was lead by the PIPC and it was generally thought that it might be possible for the Presque Isle Park; however, it was also felt that it would be difficult to create and enforce an ordinance of this nature that would cover all City Parks. She said the issue is primarily with enforcement. She said no decision has been made on this issue at this time.*

**Public Comment - Comments may not exceed three minutes per person.  
Please state your name and physical address when making public  
comments.**

*Jerry Irby said he was present to answer questions on agenda item four. Kelly Drake Woodward said she was present to answer questions regarding agenda items two(m) and two(n). Frank Verito expressed his opinions regarding agenda preparations and support materials. Phyllis Loosnfoot said she was representing the Women's Center and would be available to answer any questions on agenda item two(l) and two(o). Mayilyn Bucholtz said she wanted to express her feelings regarding the boardwalk in front of the Hampton Inn and she has noticed that there is not a lot of traffic on the boardwalk. She said parking is an issue in that area as the Rowing Club will be utilizing that area and there is limited parking already.*

**Consent Agenda**

*It was moved by Commissioner Conley, seconded by Commissioner Reynolds and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda with the exception of expense reimbursements to Mayor Coyne and Mayor ProTem Campana.*

*It was then moved by Commissioner Conley, seconded by Commissioner Campana and carried on a six-to-zero vote (with Mayor Coyne abstaining) to approve an expense reimbursement of \$490.59 to Mayor Coyne.*

*It was then moved by Commissioner Conley, seconded by Commissioner Reynolds and carried on a six-to-zero vote (with Mayor ProTem Campana abstaining) to approve an expense reimbursement of \$15.03 to Mayor ProTem Campana.*

**Approval of the Consent Agenda**

Approved on the Consent Agenda

- 2 a. Approve the minutes of the February 23, 2015 Commission meeting.

Attachments:     [02-23-15](#)

Approved on the Consent Agenda

- 2 b. Approve the total bills payable in the amount of \$1,379,968.37

Approved on the Consent Agenda

- 2 c. KBIC Funding for the Superior Watershed Partnership

Attachments:     [KBIC 2% Request-SWP](#)

Approved on the Consent Agenda

- 2 d. KBIC Funding for the U.P. Children's Museum

Attachments:     [KBIC 2% Request-U.P. Children's Museum](#)

Approved on the Consent Agenda

- 2 e. Ordinance #623 - Schedule a Public Hearing

Attachments:     [623 Tourist Directional Signs \(3\)](#)

Approved on the Consent Agenda

- 2 f. KBIC Funding for the Great Lakes Recovery Centers

Attachments:     [KBIC 2% Request-GLRC](#)

Approved on the Consent Agenda

- 2 g. Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Funding for the Great Lakes Recovery Centers

Attachments:     [Soo 2% Request-GLRC](#)

Approved on the Consent Agenda

- 2 h. KBIC Funding for the YMCA

Attachments:     [KBIC 2% Request-YMCA](#)

Approved on the Consent Agenda

- 2 i. Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Funding for the YMCA

Attachments:     [Soo 2% Request-YMCA](#)

Approved on the Consent Agenda

- 2 j. KBIC Funding for MSU - College of Human Medicine Upper Peninsula Region  
Attachments: [KBIC 2% Request-MSU-CHM UP](#)  
Approved on the Consent Agenda
- 2 k. Internet Service Provider  
Attachments: [Agreement Renewal-40M](#)  
Approved on the Consent Agenda
- 2 l. KBIC Funding for the Women's Center  
Attachments: [KBIC 2% Request Women's Center](#)  
Approved on the Consent Agenda
- 2 m. Upper Peninsula Community Rowing Club - Lease Agreement  
Attachments: [UPCRC Lease Agreement](#)  
Approved on the Consent Agenda
- 2 n. Upper Peninsula Community Rowing Club - Facility Lease  
Attachments: [UPCRC Facility Lease Agreement](#)  
Approved on the Consent Agenda
- 2 o. Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Funding for the Women's Center  
Attachments: [Soo 2% Request-Women's Center](#)  
Approved on the Consent Agenda
- 2 p. KBIC Funding for the Marquette Maritime Museum  
Attachments: [KBIC 2% Request Maritime Museum](#)  
Approved on the Consent Agenda
- 2 q. Schedule a Public Hearing on Ordinance #625 - An Ordinance to Permit a Payment in Lieu of Taxes for the Development of Affordable Housing at 600 Altamont Street  
Attachments: [625 Draft Ordinance](#)  
Approved on the Consent Agenda

## **New Business**

3. Michigan Recreation Passport Program Grant Application

**Attachments:**     [Advertisement 02.28.15](#)  
                                 [Resolution](#)

*A report and recommendation from the City Manager was read regarding the a Michigan Recreation Passport Program Grant Application for the development of a playground adjacent to the beach at Tourist Park.*

*It was moved by Commissioner Campana, seconded by Commissioner Reynolds and carried unanimously to adopt a Resolution of Commitment, and support an application for a Michigan Recreation Passport Program Grant to develop a playground with pedestrian access at Tourist Park Day-Use Area, an authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign the resolution.*

**Approved**

**4. Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Development Grant Application**

**Attachments:**     [Advertisement 02.28.15](#)  
                                 [Beautification Commitment Letter](#)  
                                 [Resolution MNRTF.pdf](#)

*A report and recommendation from the City Manager was read regarding a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Development Grant Application for access improvements to the Father Marquette Park and supported by the Marquette Beautification and Restoration Committee.*

*It was moved by Commissioner Baldini, seconded by Commissioner Conley and carried unanimously to adopt the Resolution and support an application for a Michigan Natural Resource Trust Fund Development Grant to construct accessibility improvements at Father Marquette Park, and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign the Resolution.*

**Approved**

**5. Tree Planting Services**

**Attachments:**     [Tree Planting Bid Tab 2015](#)

*A report and recommendation from the City Manager was read regarding the tree planting services.*

*It was moved by Commissioner Campana, seconded by Commissioner Frazier and carried unanimously to award the bid in an amount not to exceed \$15,000 to A. Jacobson Landscaping of Gwinn, MI at the unit prices bid, being the lowest best bid on a comparative anlysis and meeting specification.*

**Approved**

**Comments from the Commission**

CAMPANA

*Mayor ProTem Campana said there is an election scheduled for May 5, 2015 that has to do with road funding in the State of Michigan. He encouraged people to gain an understanding of the proposal as it will significantly impact funding for our roads. He said the presentation from the PRAB was very informative.*

**FRAZIER**

Commissioner Frazier said he was able to walk around Presque Isle last weekend as it is completely frozen over. He said it was very interesting with different ice formations and other sites. He said the City should try to provide a parking spot for the slip that is located near the Hampton Inn.

**CAMBENSY**

Commissioner Cambensy said it is nice to see a break in the weather after another very long winter. She said residents should continue to run their water if they are on a "let run" basis on the water system as pipes will still freeze even though the weather has improved.

**REYNOLDS**

Commissioner Reynolds said she has been away for a week and it is amazing how wonderful Marquette is. She asked when candidates for City Offices have to have their nominating petitions in. Clerk Bleau said they have to be submitted by April 21, 2015. He said the Clerk's Office will have candidate packets available, hopefully, by the end of the week. He said we are waiting for new nominating forms and after they are received they will be made available.

**BALDINI**

Commissioner Baldini said the City has been very responsive to those who have had issues with freezing water pipes and he appreciates that the DPW has done such a good job keeping up with winter related issues.

**CONLEY**

Commissioner Conley thanked Representative Kivela for taking the time to meet with the City Manager and two of the Commissioners this morning. He said, with respect to issues directly impacting the City, the Upper Peninsula delegation has been very responsive to our needs. Commissioner Conley said Mr. Kivela has a unique understanding of our local needs with his past experience on the Commission and as Mayor of the City. Commissioner Conley also alerted Citizens to be aware of the deadlines for running for Commission and he said there will be two seats up for election in 2015. He asked City Manager Vajda to provide an update on our Tax Tribunal issues.

**COYNE**

Mayor Coyne thanked the Sault Tribe and KBIC for their generous contributions to very worthy causes in the community. He said the agencies that directly benefit are very grateful for the help they have received. He said the last time there were representatives of Girls Nation present, one of the girls presented a paper that promoted smaller garbage bags and since there has been an alternative sized made available in the community. He said recently he received a call that said the smaller bags are not small enough for one person. Curt Goodman said he could research this further and report back to the Commission. Mayor Coyne said he and Mayor ProTem Campana attended a meeting on the State's Strategic Fund and he said it was a very interesting experience. He said the Fund Committee is made up of 13 people appointed by the Governor and they come from all walks of life and they determine whether all the matters to do with a Brownfield application are acceptable. He said Marquette had a very strong contingent and it was very well received by the Committee; and on the other hand one community was very poorly represented and they were not given the same consideration the City received. He said Marquette was awarded \$56 million of Brownfield funds where another community's request was tabled for lack of representation. Mayor Coyne said the Veridea Project was there and the group also spoke on behalf of that and it was very worthwhile.

## Comments from the City Manager

VAJDA

*City Manager Vajda said the Pigs-N-Heat fundraiser will be held on Wednesday, March 18, 2015 and he encouraged everyone to participate as this fund benefits those who have suffered the tragedy of losing their homes to fire incidents. He said the Game always draws a great crowd and everyone has a wonderful time. He said the event also provides an opportunity for the Fire and Police agencies to participate in a great event with the winner having bragging rights for the upcoming year. He said his Open Office Hours will be held Wednesday from 10 am to noon at the PWPL, in the public conference room and he encouraged residents to come and share their views and concerns. City Manager Vajda said the MTT issues are still ongoing as follows: Dark Stores-other jurisdictions are planning further responses to the MTT's decision on that issue that could include a legislative effort; he said the other issues facing the City there has been a settlement reached with DLP on their appeal and the Wisconsin Electric appeal remains unresolved; however, the State Attorney General (AG) has decided to step in on behalf of the City because of the impact on schools. He said the AG also affirmed the findings of the City in this process, which will hopefully bring this process to a conclusion in the near future. He said this is a major issue for the City and he acknowledged that Representative Kivela and Senator Casperson have been very supportive of the City's efforts. He said other MTT cases are listed on the CFO's page on the City website.*

## Adjournment

*Mayor Coyne adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.*

**The meetings are live on Marquette Channel 191 and rebroadcast at the following times: Tuesday 11 A.M. and 6 P.M., Wednesday 12 P.M. & 8 P.M., Thursday 4 A.M. & 1 P.M., Friday 6 A.M. & 6 P.M., Saturday 12 P.M. and Sunday 8 A.M. & 4 P.M. \*Note: Subject to temporary programming.**

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**David J. Bleau, City Clerk**